

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 3, please replace the last paragraph with the following:

Fuel gas supply manifolds 5a, 5b extend through the separators 1 for supplying the fuel gas to each of the cells 2, and fuel gas discharge manifolds 5c, 5d extend through the separators 1 for discharging the fuel gas from each of the cells 2 after reaction. Further, oxygen-containing gas supply manifolds ~~5a, 5b~~6a, 6b extend through the separators 1 for supplying the oxygen-containing gas to each of the cells 2, and oxygen-containing gas discharge manifolds ~~5c, 5d~~6c, 6d extend through the separators 1 for discharging the oxygen-containing gas from each of the cells 2 after reaction.

On page 5, please replace the paragraph starting at line 4 with the following:

The fuel gas plate 3 is connected to the fuel gas supply pipes 7a, 7b, and the fuel gas discharge pipes 7c, 7d. The oxygen-containing gas plate 4 is connected to the oxygen-containing gas supply pipes 8a, 8b, and the oxygen-containing gas discharge pipes 8c, 8d. Therefore, the overall fuel cell system is considerably large.

On page 9, please replace the paragraph starting at line 16 with the following:

The flow rate of the fuel gas supplied to the electrolyte electrode assemblies is uniform, and the power utilization ratio of the fuel gas is improved. The entire surface area of the power generation surfaces is used efficiently, and the power generation performance is improved. The fuel gas and the oxygen-containing ~~as gas~~ are supplied to opposite surfaces of the electrolyte electrode assemblies. The fuel gas and the oxygen-containing gas flow radially outwardly from the central regions on the opposite surfaces of the electrolyte electrode assemblies. Thus, no sealing structure for the fuel gas and the oxygen-containing gas is required between the electrolyte electrode assemblies and the separators, and the fuel cell has a simple structure.

On page 29, please replace the paragraph starting at line 10 with the following:

The fuel gas channel 67 and the oxygen-containing gas channel 82 are formed on the same area inside the separator 58. Therefore, ~~The~~the layout in designing the structure of the fuel cell stack 12 is simplified, and the thickness of the fuel cell stack 12 in the stacking direction is reduced.

On page 29, please replace the paragraph starting at line 25 with the following:

Further, in the first embodiment, the plates 60, 62 of the separator 58 has curved outer sections 60a, 62a. The plates 60, 62 are curved inwardly toward the circular hole 44 at positions between the electrolyte electrode assemblies 56 arranged along the outer circle P2. The inward curves of the plates 60, 62 are formed for providing tightening bolts 42 (see FIG. 1). Thus, the outer dimensions of the ~~over-all~~overall fuel cell stack 12 are effectively reduced, and the fuel cell stack 12 is small.

On page 33, please replace the paragraph starting at line 11 with the following:

As shown in FIGS. 15 and 16, a plurality of (e.g., 16) electrolyte electrode assemblies 56 are interposed between a pair of separators 158 to form the fuel cell 110. Each of the separators 158 includes a plurality of (e.g., two) plates 160, 162 which are stacked together. Each of the plates 160, 162 is formed of a stainless alloy, for example. Curved outer sections 160a, ~~160b~~ 162a are formed on the plates 160, 162, respectively.